



Countryside Day Nursery December 2011 Newsletter

Grace's Graduation- Monday November 7th at Cheltenham Race Course

I would just like to take this opportunity to thank my husband, Andy, and my two children Bill and Issy for supporting me through a three year full-time Early Childhood Studies Degree. I am pleased to announce that I completed this degree with a first class honors. I could not have achieved this without the help and support from my family. I would also like to express my sincere thanks to my dedicated staff team, as they have listened, encouraged, supported, deliberated and experimented with a whole variety of ideas which I have wanted to introduce within the Nursery. At

times, I know the staff despaired when I used to come into the Nursery the day after University, as I was always so keen to implement new ideas or try new methods to enable the children within our setting to have the best quality experience at our Nursery. And finally I would like to thank all of our parents and children for also supporting me along through this journey- it has been challenging but extremely rewarding, so thank you to you all.

Although I have finished University for the time being, this enthusiasm to learn, implement ideas and achieve more for these

young children still continues. We maintain an ethos to continuously improve quality through various techniques and strategies. For instance, the Baby Effective Early Learning Programme is a research programme incorporating a deep analysis of staff and children interactions as well as an indication of the quality of provision which we offer. This programme will be of great benefit to our setting.



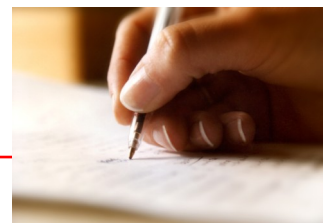
Questionnaire for parents.

As we are continuously working towards improving our practice, we would really appreciate your honest, impartial views and voices regarding our setting. Please do remember to also ask your children, as we regularly listen to the children's voice to plan our future objectives. Therefore, I have at-

tached a questionnaire with this newsletter and I would be grateful if you could complete and return. You do not have to put your name, as sometimes, the most honest answers can be sought when names are not written, however, I do need you to be specific with some criteria on the questionnaire, e.g., room

which your child attends. I have also included some sections which are required from the BEEL programme, and if they are not applicable or you feel you cannot answer them, please just delete accordingly.

I know this is time consuming exercise at a busy time of year, however the more questionnaires we receive back, the more we can improve our practice. If you would like the questionnaire in another language, this can easily be arranged. I will analyse the questionnaires over the Christmas period and will report the findings to you in subsequent newsletters. Thank you in advance.



Carol Singing- Wednesday 21st December 2011.

Every year we offer our services for carol singing to raise money for Children In Need to parent's houses within a 10 mile radius of Nursery.

This is a great evening and if you would like us to attend, we would love to come to your house to Carol Sing. Please complete the form and we will come and visit along with our harmonious singing voices. Father Christmas is always with us, and he has gifts for all of the children. This is a very popular evening, so if you would like us to visit, please complete the form and we will come on a first come first served basis. I will write to confirm our estimated time

of arrival, although you may hear our singing first. We usually arrive in the Nursery mini bus with Santa on board. We begin with the first house at 6-00pm and we continue on our rounds until we finish (usually about 8-00pm)

Unfortunately last year, we had to cancel this event due to the very snowy weather conditions and I felt that it was too risky to drive the mini-bus, so hopefully nothing will stop us this year. My close friend, Brian, the guitarist has also promised to accompany us., so with a few glasses of mulled wine, we shall be in fine spirits.

Please invite all your friends and family over for a special Christmas evening and fill in the form if you would like to see us.



Countryside Day Nursery- Ballet and French from January 2012.

Ballet Lessons.

If you would like your child to continue with Ballet lessons, or try Ballet for the first time, on a



Monday morning for the forthcoming term, please complete the form attached and return with

payment. Thank you.

French Lessons

I am afraid that the French Lessons are fully booked on a Wednesday morning for the forthcoming term, so we do not have any places for any new children to begin. Nevertheless, if the children who have been completing French lessons during the Septem-

ber term, would like to continue, please complete the form attached and forward with payment. Thank you..



Little Tikes Plastic Pirate Ship free to a good home or donation to Children In Need

We have a plastic pirate ship at Nursery, which we have decided we no longer need. As we often use our real sailing boat in the meadow area, the plastic pirate ship is becoming rather obsolete. We are also trying to reduce the amount of plastic which we have within the Nursery, as although we try and purchase mainly wooden equipment, we have had the ship for several years and at the time, plastic seemed to be fashionable and popular. As it is Little

Tikes, the ship is very sturdy with a sprayer at the front where you can attach a hose and spray water (this the children really love) but if any parent would like it I offering it free or a £20-00 donation to Children in Need- it is entirely up to the person who would like to take it on a first come first served basis. This is a replica of the ship, however, ours is not in exactly the same condition, but it is the same ship. If you

would like to view the ship, please feel free to walk round the back of the Nursery where you will easily spot it. Thank you.



"Me at Home" Forms

We had an amazing response with the Me at Home forms which we sent out in the October Newsletter. However, this is an ongoing process and as I am sure you will be completing some very exciting activities with your children over the Christmas period, we would love to hear about these and enter your entries into your children's learning journeys at Nursery.

Therefore, in order to continuously encourage our partnership with parents we would love as many parents to complete a form as possible. The form does not have to be onerous, but it is an activity which you can

complete with your children. Your children can draw pictures and as parents you can add annotations or add photographs of what your children have been doing at home. The Me at Home forms which we have received back, have been fantastic, and Robyn and her team have made a lovely display of these on the board on the stairs to Hedgehog Room. So, if you are struggling with ideas, please do go and have a look at this display or ask your key person and this may lead you to be inspired and motivated.

We would really appreciate if parent's could contribute as it is so im-

portant to add your contributions from home into your children's work at Nursery. So, please do enjoy completing these with your child- it will be a precious activity to complete together- enjoy!!!



Ladybirds and Hedgehog Parent days- Week Commencing -Monday 23rd January 2012

This is an opportunity for all parents of Ladybirds and Hedgehog children to come into Nursery to see their child's key person and have a little chat about their child's progress.

We are completing parent days

during the week beginning Monday 23rd January and if you would like to come and see your child's key person, during that week, please put your name down, on the reply slip attached and we will speak with you to arrange a convenient day. As

always we welcome all parents, so please feel to come into nursery to have a chat about your child's day

Have you caught up with your child's key person recently- come along and have a chat about your child's progress.

Some very big thank you's!!!

There are some very special people within our community at Nursery who continuously support what we do and very often do not like to be thanked. However, I always feel so very grateful so I would just like to officially thank a few people who have been so kind to us at Nursery.

Evie and Gabriel's parents have very generously donated some wonderful storage containers and a lovely sack trolley. These items have been so

useful, and I don't know how I have managed 20 years of Nursery, without a sack trolley- it's a marvelous tool.

Grampy Ede (David's Grampy) has been busy for us once again. Grampy Ede managed to get a whole range of Road Safety Gear for our road safety week which was used very successfully with all of the children. Also, he has managed to organise a fire engine to visit the Nursery on

Monday 19th December. The children are really looking forward to this day. So thank you to Mr Ede for everything that you do.

And finally, thank you to all the Dad's who came to play with their children on our open morning. We had Dad's hammering, searching for bugs, clay modeling and I think everyone enjoyed their bacon rolls. Thank you to you all for attending it was a lovely morning.

We thought that you may like to see some photographs of the Daddy's morning, the Road Safety Week and the trip to Mrs Luard's Woods at Staunton- Enjoy.



Suggestions for Policies. As we begin to re-visit the policies in March for May completion, please feel free to forward any suggestions to the policies which you feel you would like. I have included a section on the reply slip for you to complete. Thank you in advance.

On behalf of the staff and myself, we would like to thank you very much for continuously reading our newsletters and supporting your children every step of the way. You would not believe what a difference this makes to us as staff within our job roles, as your support is fundamental to your child's early learning and development. We are so lucky at Countryside to have an excellent partnership with parents and we thank you so much for being brilliant supportive parents. As this is the last newsletter

of the year, we hope that you will all enjoy a well deserved restful Christmas period, and we hope that you have a lovely time at Christmas with your children. We would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year. xxx

